

HAEMOPHILUS INFLUENZAE

Invasive Disease

The organism *Haemophilus influenzae* type b causes meningitis, epiglottitis, septic arthritis, and pneumonia, as well as localized infections such as conjunctivitis, sinusitis, otitis media and bronchitis in infants and young children. In adults, the organism often presents as pneumonia. Droplets from the nose and throat spread the organism during the infectious period. A vaccine which protects against invasive disease caused by *H. influenzae* type b (Hib) is recommended for all infants beginning at two months of age.

Laboratory Criteria for Diagnosis:

- Isolation of *Haemophilus influenzae* from a normally sterile site (blood, CSF, or less commonly, joint, pleural, or pericardial fluid).

Incidence in Kentucky

2000

Number of Cases

12

Rate per 100,000

0.3

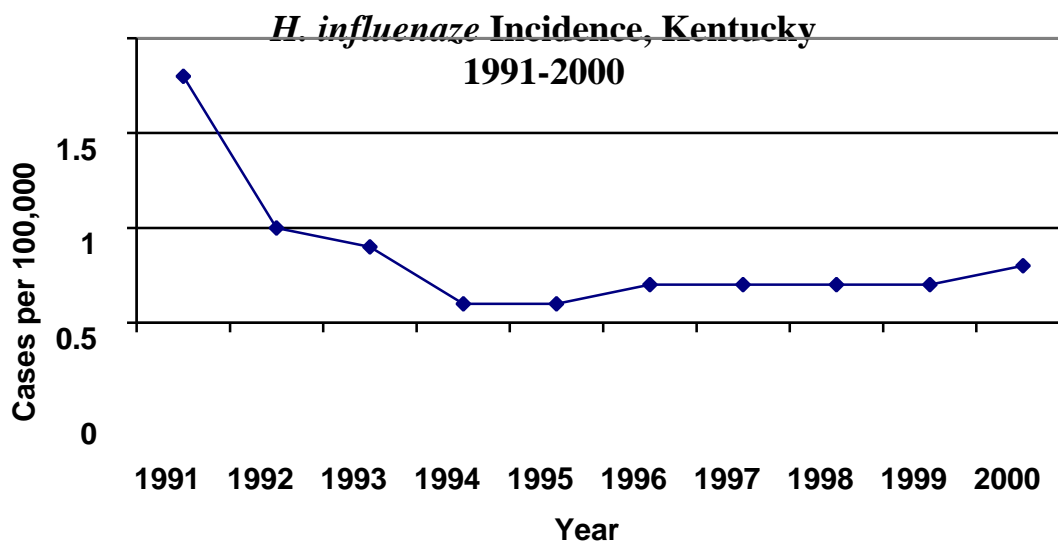
Rate by Gender

Female

.44

Male

.16



Four cases occurred in children 1 year or less in age, for a rate of 3.8 per 100,000 in the 0-1 age group. In the 1998 and 1999 reporting years there were 3 cases each year in this age group.

The districts reporting cases in **2000** were: Pennyrite, Green River, Northern Kentucky, Big Sandy, Lake Cumberland and Bluegrass.